AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1, 32, and 52 as follows.

Please **CANCEL** claims 9, 11-31, and 42-51.

Please **ADD** claims 53-56 as follows.

A copy of all pending claims and a status of the claims are provided below.

1.　　(Currently Amended) A method for managing and tracking changes, the method comprising the steps of:

defining at least one customer requirement for an enhancement to an enterprise architecture;

identifying at least one capability to provide the enhancement to the enterprise architecture;

estimating at least one of a revenue increase and a cost saving associated with the at least one capability; ~~and~~

determining a value provided by the at least one capability based upon an implementation cost and the at least one of the revenue increase and the cost saving; and

partitioning information relevant to enterprise decision making for evolutionary change by creating categories of the information and relating these categories to one another and automating the management of the categories of the information by an automation system, the information being defined by at least one of the value, the at least one capability, and operational resources.

2.　　(Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

mapping the at least one customer requirement to the at least one capability; and

comparing the value provided by the at least one capability with another value provided by at least one other capability and determining which capability provides optimum value.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying step includes identifying one or more strategic resources to support the at least one capability.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the identifying at least one capability step includes identifying at least one of a business process, a personnel skill/competency, a physical entity, an information technology, a system component, and an infrastructure component.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising assigning a weight to the one or more strategic resources and prioritizing the one or more strategic resources based on the assigned weight.

6.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of assigning outcome based performance metrics to the one or more strategic resources.

7.   (Original) The method of claim 6, further comprising the step of implementing the one or more strategic resources and tracking the one or more strategic resources based on the outcome based performance metrics.

8.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
          assigning a weight to the at least one capability; and
          prioritizing the at least one capability based on the assigned weight.

9.   (Canceled)

10.   (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

        assigning outcome based performance metrics to the at least one

capability; and

        implementing the at least one capability and tracking the at least one

capability based on the outcome based performance metrics.

11. – 31.   (Canceled)

32.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising hardware and software for managing

and tracking a change, the system comprising:

        a means component to define for defining at least one customer

requirement for an enhancement to an enterprise architecture;

        a means component to identify for identifying at least one capability to

provide the enhancement to the enterprise architecture;

        a means component to estimate for estimating at least one of a revenue

increase and a cost saving associated with the at least one capability; and

        a means component to determine for determining a value provided by the

at least one capability based upon the implementation cost and the at least one of a

revenue increase and the cost saving; and

        a means for partitioning information relevant to enterprise decision making

for evolutionary change by creating categories of the information and relating these

categories to one another and automating the management of the categories of the

information by an automation system, the information being defined by at least one of

the value, the at least one capability, and operational resources.

33.   (Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising a component to map the at

least one customer requirement to the at least one capability.

34.　(Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising a component to compare the value provided by the at least one capability with a value provided by at least one other capability and to determine which capability provides optimum value.

35.　(Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the enterprise architecture includes at least one of a hardware architecture and a software architecture.

36.　(Original) The system of claim 32, wherein the component to identify at least one capability identifies one or more strategic resources to support the at least one capability and the one or more strategic resources includes at least one of a business process, a personnel skill/competency, a physical entity, an information technology, a system component, and an infrastructure component.

37.　(Original) The system of claim 36, further includes a component to assign a weight to the one or more strategic resources and a component to prioritize the one or more resources based on the assigned weight.

38.　(Original) The system of claim 36, further includes a component to assign outcome based performance metrics to the one or more strategic resources.

39.　(Original) The system of claim 38, further includes a component to track the one or more strategic resources based on the outcome based performance metrics.

40.　(Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising:

　　　　　a component to assign a weight to the at least one capability; and

　　　　　a component to prioritize the at least one capability based on the assigned weight.

41.   (Original) The system of claim 32, further comprising a component to assign outcome based performance metrics to the at least one capability.

42. – 51.   (Canceled)

52.   (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having readable program code embodied in the medium, the computer program product includes:

a first computer code to define at least one customer requirement for an enhancement to an enterprise architecture;

a second computer code to identify at least one capability to provide the enhancement to the enterprise architecture;

a third computer code to estimate at least one of a revenue increase and a cost saving associated with the at least one capability; and

a fourth computer code to determine a value provided by the at least one capability based upon the implementation cost and the at least one of a revenue increase and the cost saving; and

a fifth computer code to partition information relevant to enterprise decision making for evolutionary change by creating categories of the information and relating these categories to one another and automating the management of the categories of the information by an automation system, the information being defined by at least one of the value, the at least one capability, and operational resources.

53.   (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one customer requirement is defined in response to a request by a customer.

54.   (New) The method of claim 53, wherein the value is monetary or in terms of strategic business worth.

55.   (New) The method of claim 54, wherein the outcome based performance metrics are defined and tested by conducting facilitated working sessions or building simulation models.

56.   (New) The method of claim 55, wherein the estimates are at lest one of entered, recorded, or modified as additional real performance information is observed.